

Dear Friends,

I find it appalling that Sinclair Broadcasting is forcing their stations to air an anti-Kerry documentary days before the election. This is blatant misuse of the airways owned by the public to further the political cause of one side. It is of note that as wildly popular as Michael Moore's Fahrenheit 9/11 is, it has not been shown on TV. This is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation, whereby private viewpoints are espoused without balance to the public.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.